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REMARKS

Claims 11-26 are presented herein. Claims 1-10 have been cancelled without disclaimer of subject matter and Claims 11-26 have been added. Claims 11 and 19 are independent. The remaining claims depend from these independent claims. Consideration of Claims 11-26 is respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 11 is directed to a bracket for mounting an electrical component device. The bracket includes a first end and a second end, the first end having a substantially semi-circular shape and an inner and outer surface that permits an electrical component device, having a body portion and leads extending from the body portion, to be retained thereon. A shaft connects the first and second ends and has at least one mounting point for attaching the bracket to a mounting surface. The body portion of the electrical component device is removably retained within the first end, and upon attaching the bracket to the mounting surface, the body portion of the electrical component device does not contact the mounting surface on which the bracket is attached.

Claims 1 and 8 were finally rejected as being anticipated by Van Lerberghe and Claims 2-10 were rejected as being unpatentable over Van Lerberghe in view of Prior Art. The cancellation of Claims 1-10 renders the outstanding rejections moot.

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Applicant respectfully submits that each of independent Claims 11 and 19 are patentable over the art of record for at least the following reasons.

Van Lerberghe does *not* teach or suggest a bracket having a substantially semi-circular shape that "permits an electrical component device to be retained thereon" such that the "body portion of the electrical component device is removably retained within the first end, and upon attaching the bracket to the mounting surface, the body portion of the electrical component device does not contact the mounting surface on which the bracket is attached". Rather in Van Lerberghe, "electrical component 5 is manually secured to the printed circuit board by tightly securing the lead 6 in the aperture 9 of the wire clamp 7 (col. 3, lines 13-16) .

In addition, independent method Claim 19 is believed patentable over Van Lerberghe for at least the same reason as Claim 11 and each of dependent Claims 12-18 and 20-26 is believed patentable over the cited art for the same reasons as submitted above with respect to the independent claims from which they depend and as reciting additional patentable limitations.

It is respectfully submitted that in regard to the above remarks that Claims 11-26 are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this preliminary amendment or of the application at large, request is made that

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the Examiner telephone the Applicant's undersigned attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin L. Williams
Karin L. Williams
Registration No. 36,721

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this document and any document referenced herein has been transmitted via facsimile to the US Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9319 on March 28, 2003.

Karin L. Williams, Reg. No. 36,721.
(Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)

Karin L. Williams
(Signature)

Please Continue To Send All Correspondence to:

Mayer, Fortkort & Williams PC
251 North Avenue West, 2nd Floor
Westfield, NJ 07090

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